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1 December 2003

# tents Form 1/77

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(See the notes on the back of this form. You can also get an explanatory leaflet from the Patent Office to help you fill in this form)



102 E758<del>9</del>66-2 D10002 PO1/7700 0-00-0224992.8

The Patent Office

Cardiff Road Newport South Wales NP10 800

Your reference

som.2558.uk.kv.d

Patent application number (The Patent Office will fill in this part)

0224992.8

26 OCT 2002

Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

Marie Somerville 69 Alexander Avenue Eaglesham **GLASGOW** G76 ODS

08497985000

Title of the invention

Insect repellent

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)

Kennedys Patent Agency Limited

0805 8240000 Floor 5, Queens House 29 St Vincent Place **GLASGOW** 

G1 2DT

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number

Country

Priority application number (if you know it)

Date of filing (day / month / year)

7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application

Number of earlier application

Date of filing (day / month / year)

8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if:

a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or

b) there is an inventor who is not named as an

c) any named applicant is a corporate body. See note (d))

No

#### P~tents Form 1/77

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Continuation sheets of this form

Description

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Claim (s)

Abstract

Drawing(s)

If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item.

Priority documents

Translations of priority documents

Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (Patents Form 7/77)

Request for preliminary examination and search (Patents Form 9/77)

Request for substantive examination (Patents Form 10/77)

Any other documents (please specify)

11. I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature KENNEDYS 25 October 2002

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom Karen Veitch 0141 226 6826

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### Notes

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## Insect Repellent

3 The present invention relates to an insect repellent.

4 More particularly the present invention relates to a

5 composition, which can be applied to the skin in order to

repel insects including, but not limited to mosquitoes

7 and midges.

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9 In a number of European countries including the UK, and

10 particularly Scotland, the midge and horsefly are serious

11 irritants, to tourists, gardeners and sports enthusiasts,

12 such as ramblers, hill-walkers, climbers, etc. It is

13 estimated that around 14,000 species of midge exist, some

14 of which carry viruses which are known to be dangerous to

15 animals. Whilst in general, midge bites are not

16 particularly dangerous and rarely result in disease in

17 humans, the bites can be unpleasant and cause pruiritis

18 (itching), eurticaria (skin eruptions) and localised

19 inflammation. Unfortunately, it is thought that the

20 prevalence of these pests may increase as worldwide

21 climate changes occur.

The common midge and fly are irritating but generally 1 harmless pests. However in many countries serious and 2 potentially fatal diseases are spread by insects, such as 3 mosquitoes. For example, the mosquito-borne illness, 4 malaria, is one of the main killer diseases of the world, 5 6 and causes an estimated 1 to 2 million deaths per year. In some parts of Africa it is estimated that 10% of the 7 total mortality of infants under the age of 5 is due 8 directly to the disease. Although historically this 9 10 serious illness was localised in tropical areas such as 11 Central and South America, the Middle East, the Indian 12 sub-continent and Asia, the prevalence of malaria is 13 rising due to temporary migration of the population 14 between these countries, primarily due to the increase in 15 popularity of tropical destinations for holidays and This is exemplified in the UK, where the 16 vacations. 17 number of reported cases of malaria has increased 18 dramatically in recent decades due to foreign travel. 19 Although malaria can be cured with prescription drugs, 20 many mosquito species have developed resistance to common 21 anti-malarial drugs. Therefore, as with many insect borne illnesses, prophylaxis is seen as preferable to 22 23 This is generally achieved through a combination 24 of vaccination and also by the prevention of bites in the 25 first instance. 26 27 Other diseases spread by insects, include the viral 28 illnesses Yellow Fever, Dengue Fever, Encephalitis and Filiariasis which are all mosquito-borne. For the 29 majority of these illnesses there are no preventative . 30 31 vaccines, and often no specific treatment. Thus the 32 essence of prevention is to avoid being bitten in the 33 first place. For example at present there is no

effective drug treatment for Yellow Fever or 1 Encephalitis, and therefore prophylaxis is essential. 2 Yet further, there is no current effective vaccination 3 for Dengue Fever, and therefore it is vitally important 4 that the initial insect bite is avoided. 5 6 Other insert-borne diseases include leishmaniasis which 7 is transmitted by sandflies; sleeping sickness 8 transmitted by the tsetse fly; lyme disease and typhus 9 fever which are transmitted by ticks. 10 11 The demand for suitable insect repellents is therefore at 12 . There are many well known insect an all-time high. 13 repellents on the market. Historically, most include the 14 chemical DEET (diethyl toluamide). Whilst this chemical 15 has been proven to be highly effective in repelling 16 insects, it is highly toxic and can be absorbed through 17 the skin. Yet further, DEET can act as a skin irritant 18 and has a disagreeable odour. In addition, care must be 19 taken to avoid furnishings, plastic, varnished and 20 painted surfaces, when using repellents containing this 21 chemical. Accordingly, in recent years there has been a 22 move towards the search for natural, non-toxic yeast 23 effective insect repellents, which do not cause 24 irritation or toxicity to the user. 25 26 It is an object of the present invention to provide a 27 natural insect repellent, which is non-toxic to the user. 28 29 Yet further, it is an object of the present invention to . 30 provide a natural insect repellent, which is non-irritant 31

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and has a pleasant smell.

It is a further aim of the present invention to provide 1 an insect repellent, which is effective against insects 2 such as fleas, ticks, gnats and, in particular, midges 3 and mosquitoes. 4 5 According to a first aspect of the present invention, 6 there-is provided a composition, which is effective in 7 repelling insects, comprising a mixture of essential oils 8 in a carrier oil. 9 10 Preferably the essential oils are lime oil, myrtle, 11 citronella oil, eucalyptus oil and neem oil. .12 13 Most preferably the myrtle is bog myrtle. 14 15 In a preferred embodiment, the carrier oil is grape seed 16 oil. However, other carrier oils may be used, including 17 almond oil, avocado oil, vegetable oil, wheat flour oil 18 or sun germ oil or a mixture thereof. 19 20 Preferably the carrier oil constitutes 50% of the 21 22 composition. 23 Preferably the essential oils constitute 50% of the 24 25 composition. 26 Preferably the lime oil is present in a concentration of 27 between 8 and 12 drops per 12ml of the composition. 28 29 Most preferably the lime oil is present in a 30

concentration of 10 drops per 4 ml of the composition.

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Preferably the myrtle oil is present in a concentration of between 28 and 32 drops per 12ml of the composition. Most preferably the myrtle oil is present in a concentration of 30 drops per 11/2 ml of the composition. Preferably the citronella oil is present in a concentration of between 190 and 210 drops per 10ml of the composition. Most preferably the citronella oil is present in a concentration of 200 drops per 10 ml of the composition. Preferably the eucalyptus oil is present in a concentration of 3 to 7 drops per 1 of the composition. Most preferably the eucalyptus oil is present in a concentration of 5 drops per 4 ml of the composition. Preferably the neem oil is present in a concentration of between 740 and 760 drops per 37ml of the composition. Most preferably the neem oil is present in a concentration of 750 drops per 37 ml of the composition. Preferably the carrier oil is present in a concentration of 23 ml. Optionally the composition is provided as a spray. The composition is intended for topical use. 

The composition repels insects including, but not limited 1 to midges, mosquitoes, gnats, ticks, flies and fleas. 2 3 Preferably the composition has a pleasant odour. 4 5 According to a second aspect of the present invention, 6 there is provided a composition, which is effective in 7 repelling insects, comprising a mixture of lime oil, 8 myrtle, citronella oil, eucalyptus oil and neem oil. 9 10 Most preferably the myrtle is bog myrtle. 11 12 Preferably the essential oils constitute 50% of the 13 composition. 14 15 Preferably the lime oil is present in a concentration of 16 between 8 and 12 drops per 12ml of the composition. 17 18 Most preferably the lime oil is present in a 19 concentration of 10 drops per 12 ml of the composition. 20 21 Preferably the myrtle oil is present in a concentration 22 of between 28 and 32 drops per 12ml of the composition. 23 24 Most preferably the myrtle oil is present in a 25 concentration of 30 drops per 14 ml of the composition. 26 27 Preferably the citronella oil is present in a 28 concentration of between 190 and 210 drops per 10ml of 29 the composition. 30 31 Most preferably the citronella oil is present in a 32

concentration of 200 drops per 10 ml of the composition.

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1 2 Preferably the eucalyptus oil is present in a concentration of 3 to 7 drops per aml of the composition. 3 4 Most preferably the eucalyptus oil is present in a 5 concentration of 5 drops per  $\frac{1}{4}$  ml of the composition. 6 7 8 The neem oil comprises the remainder of the composition and acts as a carrier oil. 9 10 Optionally the composition is provided as a spray. 11 12 13 The composition is intended for topical use. 14 The composition repels insects including, but not limited 15 to midges, mosquitoes, gnats, ticks, flies and fleas. 16 17 18 Preferably the composition has a pleasant odour. 19 20 According to the third aspect of the present invention, there is provided a composition, which is effective in 21 22 repelling insects, comprising a mixture of essential oils and a base cream. 23 24 25 Preferably the essential oils are lime oil, myrtle, 26 citronella oil, eucalyptus oil and neem oil. 27 28 Most preferably the myrtle is bog myrtle. 29 30 Optionally the composition comprises a carrier oil which may be grape seed oil, however other carrier oils may be 31 32 used, including almond oil, avocado oil, vegetable oil, wheat flour oil or sun germ oil or a mixture thereof. · 33

1 2 Typically the base cream comprises a mixture of aqua, 3 prunus dulcis, glycerine (vegetable), cetearyl alcohol, stearic acid, triethanolamine, ceteareth 20, methyl 4 paraffin, imidazolidinyl urea and propyl paraffin. 5 6 7 The composition is intended for topical use. 8 9 Preferably the composition has a pleasant odour. 10 11 Advantageously, the described composition has an agreeable smell, and is completely natural and non-toxic 12 13 to the user. 14 In the present invention, it has been discovered that the 15 described composition has surprisingly superior and 16· 17 super-additive effectiveness over conventional insect 18 repellents in repelling midges and mosquitoes. 19 Specifically, it has been discovered that by preparing a 20 composition comprising 10 drops per 12 ml of lime oil, 30 21 drops per 12 ml of bog myrtle, 200 drops per 10 ml of 22 citronella oil, 5 drops per 4 ml of eucalyptus oil and 23 740 drops per 37 ml of neem oil, preferably with a 24 carrier oil results in a superior non-toxic insect 25 repellent. 26 27 In the preferred embodiment, grape seed oil is used as a 28 carrier, however it will be appreciated that any suitable 29 natural oil, such as almond oil, avocado oil, vegetable 30 oil, wheat flour oil or sun germ oil, or indeed a mixture 31 thereof could be used.

1 It is also appreciated that any form of eucalyptus, such as lavender eucalyptus or lemon eucalyptus could be used 2 within the composition. Similarly, whilst the use of bog 3 myrtle is preferred, any alternative and corresponding 4 5 type of myrtle, such as white myrtle, could be used. 6 7 In an alternative embodiment, the carrier oil could be 8 removed altogether, and the neem oil could be substituted 9 as the carrier base. 10 The effectiveness of the composition described in the 11 12 present Application is tested using female mosquitoes 13 which are bred and incubated in the normal manner. A 14 tester applies the composition to both hands, and these 15 are inserted into a closed box which contains a set 16 number of mosquitoes, typically 20, for a set period of 17 time. Effectiveness is calculated by two means, firstly by visual observation of the number of mosquitoes which 18 land on the tester's hands, and secondly by counting of 19 20 the number of visible bites which appear at the end of 21 the test. Modifications and improvements may be made to the

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24 foregoing without departing from the scope of the

25 invention.